

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /120 W
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P 111140Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8869
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 04258

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS:PEER, MO, ETRD, SS
SUBJECT: VISIT OF MOROCCAN PM TO MOSCOW

SUMMARY: ANALYSIS OF KOSYGIN AND MOROCCAN PM OSMAN MARCH 9
DINNER SEPEECHES INDICATES SOVIET DESIRE NOT TO ROCK BOAT
DURING THIS "WORKING VISIT" PURPOSE OF WHICH IS TO
FORMALLY CONCLUDE LONG NEGOTIATED PHOSPHATE AGREEMENT.
KOSYGIN MAKES STRONG STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR GENEVA
M.E. PEACE CONFERENCE. OSMAN MAKES VERY CLEAR THE
MOROCCAN UNDERSTANDING OF "PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE" AND
DETENTE. IMPLICITLY INCLUDED ARE HORN OF AFRICA, M.E.,
AND WESTERN SAHARA. BOTH KOSYGIN AND OSMAN PAY LIP
SERVICE TO NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. END
SUMMARY.

1. MARCH 10 PRAVDA CARRIES TASS REPORTS OF MOROCCAN PM
OSMAN'S MARCH 9 AIRPORT ARRIVAL, FIRST ROUND OF TALKS, AND
KOSYGIN-OSMAN EXCHANGE OF DINNER SPEECHES. REPORT ON
TALKS NOTES THAT THIS A "WORKING VISIT" AND DESCRIBES
"FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE OF TALKS."

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2. SPEECHES WERE MORE INTERESTING. ASSUME DEPT. HAS TEXT,
BUT HIGH POINTS FOLLOW:

KOSYGIN:
-- REFERRED TO TWENTY YEAR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP IN
FLATTERING TERMS AND EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF PHOSPHATE

AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED MARCH 10. SOVIET UNION, HE SAID, IS THEREFORE INTERESTED IN "CONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATION" OF NEW AGREEMENT;

-- SPOKE ABOUT NEED FOR PEACE AND EQUAL AND MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS RELATIONS AMONG ALL COUNTRIES. SOVIET UNION, HE SAID, DOES NOT SEEK UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE, DOES NOT STRIVE TO CREATE "POINTS OF SUPPORT" FOR PRESSING ITS POLICY OR EXPANDING ITS OWN INFLUENCE. KOSYGIN CITES BREZHNEV ON FALSITY OF CHARGES OF US-SOVIET RIVALRY IN THIRD WORLD, AND HE FAVORABLY MENTIONS NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. HE THEN NOTES SOVIET COOPERATION IN "EXPANSION OF PROCESS OF DETENTE IN REGION OF MAGHREB," AND UNDERLINES NEED TO ELIMINATE "HOT SPOTS" OF CONFLICT. SOVIET UNION, HE SAYS, IS FOR CESSATION OF MILITARY ACTIONS AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTED QUESTIONS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS:

-- MADE STRONG STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE AS "SHORTEST PATH" TO SOLUTION OF M.E. PROBLEM (SEPTTEL).

3. IN TURN, OSMAN:

-- FAVORABLY RECALLED SOVIET-MOROCCAN ECONOMIES TIES AND "MUTUAL TRUST AND RESPECT" WHICH CHARACTERIZES SOVIET-MOROCCAN RELATIONS;

-- TRIED TO PUT BILATERAL RELATIONS INTO PERSPECTIVE BY
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NOTING "SOCIO-ECONOMIC" DIFFERENCES WHICH MADE COMPLETE IDENTITY OF VIEWS UNLIKELY, BUT WHICH MADE SUCH VIRTUES AS "SERIOUSNESS, STRAIGHT-FORWARDNESS, STABILITY, AND CONSTANCY" ALL THE MORE DESIRABLE. THESE QUALITIES, HE SAID, EXACTLY CHARACTERIZED BOTH MOROCCO AND THE SOVIET UNION. IN THIS CONTEXT, HE ALSO REFERRED TO THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES OF MOROCCAN POLICY INCLUDING RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES;

-- LECTURED KOSYGIN ON THE MOROCCAN DEFINITION OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AND DETENTE. HE NOTED MOSCOW'S "SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY" AS A GREAT POWER FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND THE STRENGTHENING OF WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY, BUT HE WARNED THAT "GENUINE" PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AND DETENTE REQUIRED THE ELIMINATION OF TENSION SPOTS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON A BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND EQUALITY;

-- REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO ISRAELI "AGGRESSIVE AND EXPANSIONIST" POLICY, AND, MORE GENERALLY, TO "TENSION SPOTS

AND EXPLOSIVE SITUATIONS" IN AFRICA. MOROCCO, HE SAID, CONSIDERS IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT DISPUTES AND CONFLICTS IN AFRICA BE DECIDED BETWEEN AFRICANS THEMSELVES THROUGH TALKS AND "BROTHERLY DIALOGUE."

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY INTERPRETS OSMAN'S LENGTHY COMMENTS TO REFER TO PRESENT SITUATIONS IN BOTH HORN AND WESTERN SAHARA. WHILE WE DOUBT THAT HIS EFFORTS TO MAKE DETENTE INDIVISIBLE WILL HAVE MUCH DIRECT EFFECT, THEY COULD SERVE TO REINFORCE THE SAME MESSAGE WHICH HAS BEEN OFTEN REPEATED TO SOVIET LEADERS OF LATE. WE DO NOTE KOSYGIN'S REFERENCE TO SOVIET INTEREST IN THE "CONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATION" OF

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 04258

THE PHOSPHATE AGREEMENT. IN RECENT CONVERSATION BETWEEN EMBOFF AND MOROCCAN EMBASSY DCM ABDELILLAH MARCIL, LATTER SAID MOROCCANS EXPECTED SOVIET INTEREST IN STARTING AND MAINTAINING PHOSPHATE FLOW TO AGRICULTURAL SECTOR OF SOVIET ECONOMY WOULD SERVE TO KEEP MOSCOW RESTRAINED WITH REGARD TO SUPPORT FOR ALGERIAN/POLISARIO SIDE OF WESTERN SAHARA DISPUTE. TOON

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